



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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22 DECEMBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~



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1. South Vietnam

As of 1600, we have received no indication that General Khanh has retreated from his opposition to the restoration of the High National Council, most of whose members are said to have been released from detention. Khanh may feel that he has gone too far to retreat. We have no late information on the attitudes of the young commanders, who may think twice before burning their bridges along with Khanh. There has been no sign of Viet Cong military reaction so far.

2. British Guiana

Premier Burnham has successfully completed negotiations with his coalition partners, whom he has given three ministries. [REDACTED]

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3. Laos

Road watch teams on Route 12 report seeing about 600-800 Communist troops moving west by truck toward the Mahaxay-Nhommarath area of Laos generally east of Thakhek in the last few days. They are suspected to be North Vietnamese. There have been other indications of a recent step up in North Vietnamese activity in this sector, but it is not clear whether it is related primarily to the South Vietnamese or to the Laotian situation. [REDACTED]

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5. Congo

New rebel activity is expected soon in the eastern Congo around Bukavu and Uvira. Rumors are flying in Leopoldville of attacks to be mounted on Christmas weekend from Congo (Brazzaville). We doubt that the Brazzaville regime can mount any elaborate attack, but the rumors will have an unsettling effect in Leopoldville, where a cabinet crisis is in progress. The rumors may have been deliberately floated to divert attention from rebel activity in the northeast. (See map.)

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